

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 38 were presented for examination in the present application. The instant amendment cancels non-elected claims 27 through 38 without prejudice. Thus, claims 1 through 26 are presented for consideration.

The Office Action requires restriction between the read-write head of Group I (claims 1 through 26) and the method of Group II (claims 27 through 38).

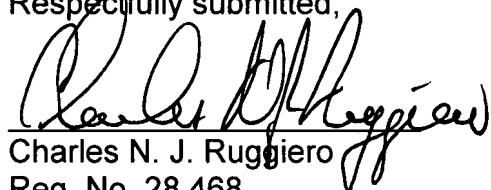
Applicant elects, without traverse, the invention of Group I, which includes claims 1 through 26. Specifically, Applicant requests examination of the read-write head of Group I.

Elected claims 1 through 26 have been amended to better conform to U.S. practice. Specifically, claims 1 through 26 have been amended to remove reference numerals, to include the appropriate article in the preamble of all claims, to ensure proper antecedent basis for all claim elements, and to provide proper verb tense to all method claims. These claim amendments merely make explicit what had been implicit in the claims and, thus, should not affect the scope of equivalents to which the claims are entitled.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for examination. Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration and passage of this application to allowance.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicant's attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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